

the trap was operated on suitable nights during 1988 and for assisting with the counting of the catch. The records for 1989 were kindly supplied by D. Walker. I would also like to thank D. Wedd for passing on records from his visits. I am grateful to B. Lawrence of Nuclear Electric for furnishing me with rainfall and temperature measurements for 1988 and 1989.

#### References

- Skinner, B., 1984. *Colour Identification Guide to Moths of the British Isles*, Viking, Middlesex.  
South, R., 1961. *The Moths of the British Isles*, Warne, London.  
MARK PARSONS, The Forge, Russells Green, Ninfield, nr Battle, East Sussex.

#### **The larva of *Chrysodeixis chalcites* Esp. (Lep.: Noctuidae), Golden Twin-spot in Essex**

In early September 1984 I found a green "Plusia" larva feeding on the leaves of a home-grown tomato plant at Great Horkesley, Essex. It duly pupated and a female *Chrysodeixis chalcites* emerged on 21st September.

This record would appear to be the fourth for Essex and the first occasion that the feral larva has been found in the British Isles.

My thanks to Bernard Skinner for confirming my identification of the adult moth.— PETER SMYTHEMAN, 25 Sussex Avenue, Ashford, Kent.

#### ***Ectropis consonaria* Hüb. (the Square Spot), ab. *waiensis* Richardson (Lep.: Geometridae) in North Wales**

I spent four nights in the Corris district just inside the old Montgomeryshire border (now Powys), North Wales, between 21st - 24th May 1989. Weather conditions had been very hot in the area and many species turned up that one would not expect until several weeks later.

On the night of the 23rd, amongst many normal *consonaria*, I was very surprised to find two specimens of the form *waiensis*, a male and a female. This appears to be well outside the usual known area for this variety, namely the Monmouth - Gloucestershire border district.

Any information regarding the occurrence of ab. *waiensis* beyond the Wye Valley would be of interest, particularly northwards, to ascertain whether it has extended its range recently or somehow been overlooked.— J. PLATTS, 11 Maydowns Road, Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent.

#### **An unusual foodplant for the plume moth *Oidaematophorus lithodactyla* (Treitschke) (Lep.: Pterophoridae)**

We have been able to record insects at the Liverpool University Botanic Gardens, Ness (grid ref. SJ30-75-, Vice-County 58) through the kindness of the Director. Insect damage to the plants, particularly the exotic species, is not widespread. On 18.6.1989 conspicuous holes were noticed in the leaves